



COMMANDO

Any Time, Any Place

Vol. 54, Issue 43

16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Dec. 9, 2005

505th CCW gets new commander

by Capt.
Nathan Broshear
505th CCW Public Affairs

Col. Vincent DiFronzo took command of the 505th Command and Control Wing during a ceremony Dec. 2 at the Hurlburt Field Air Park.

Maj. Gen. Stephen Goldfein, U.S. Air Force Warfare Center commander, presented the reins of leadership to Colonel DiFronzo from Col. Chuck McGuirk, who is headed to Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Colonel DiFronzo comes to the 505th CCW from Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, where he was the 19th Air Force vice commander.

He has also served as the director of combat operations at the Combined Air and Space Operations Center for operations Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom.

"Colonel DiFronzo brings an impressive resume' to the 505th CCW," said General Goldfein. "From his experience at the CAOC in Saudi Arabia to his leadership in Afghanistan, Colonel DiFronzo has been downrange and seen the challenges facing the warfighter."

See 505TH, Page 8

CDC expansion

More space for care providers, shorter waiting period for parents

by Senior Airman
Heidi Davis
16th SOW Public Affairs

Hurlburt Field leaders and children broke ground on the new child development center annex at 9 a.m. Tuesday.

The \$702,000 project, awarded to Artic Pipe & Materials, is scheduled for completion in about six months.

"If anyone knows what it takes to go from an idea, to a design, having it contracted and receiving the funds, it could take anywhere from months to a little more than a year," said Maj. Mark Russo, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron commander.

"Thanks to the help from services and contracting, the whole process took approximately six weeks," Major Russo said.

The lack of affordable childcare spaces had the highest interest by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and all branches of the military. OSD provided the funds for the increase in size and capacity for the existing programs, said Fred Walton, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron Situational awareness beacon with reply chief.

"Few other bases qualified for the extra CDC funding, but Congress recognized our need," said Col. Clifford "Skip" Day, 16th Mission

Support Group commander. "With our high deployment rate, children are constantly using the CDC."

The 3,600-square-foot facility, which will be located directly behind the CDC, will provide 48 additional spaces for Hurlburt families, specifically, for children under age 2, a group that comprises 70 percent of the current childcare waiting list, said Mr. Walton.

The available spaces are broken down into the following categories:

- 16 spaces for infants ages 6 weeks - 6 months
- Eight spaces for infants ages 6 months - 12 months
- 10 spaces for children ages 1-2 years
- 14 spaces for children ages 2-3 years

"There are more than 200 children on the waiting list for the CDC," said Jamie Gries, 16th Services Squadron, Family Member Support Group Flight chief. "This new facility will at least make a dent in reducing that number."

The CDC expects to hire approximately 10 additional staff members to care for the large group of children, Ms. Gries said.

"Having been named the number one CDC in the Air Force, the OSD tried to reward us for our excellence," Colonel Day said.



Photograph by Senior Airman Heidi Davis

Megan Stanford, daughter of Tech. Sgts. John Stanford, 823rd RED HORSE Squadron, and Cynthia Stanford, 16th Maintenance Operations Squadron, does her share of digging during the groundbreaking Tuesday at the child development center.

News Air Force and Hurlburt Field enlisted retention rates are below par

News



Feature



Sports



Wingman

0-0-1-3
0 Drinks under 21
0 DUIs
1 Drink an hour
3 Drinks a night

Weather

	High	Low
Today	61	40
Sat.	62	35
Sun.	63	38

Home of America's Air Commandos

Are you an Air Commando?

by Col. Clifford "Skip" Day
16th MSG commander

Do you have what it takes? Do you, or more importantly, do your supervisors and commanders consider you an Air Commando?

The title of Air Commando is something you have to earn.

You're not simply anointed with the title just because you're assigned to Air Force Special Operations Command.

Air Commandos set their goals high, then achieve them. They don't buy into the adage that anyone can be a success if they set their standards low enough.

For example, what did you score on your last career development course test, and how hard did you study for it? Did you do well, or just squeak by? Did you put in the extra effort required, or did you "blow it off" and go out with your friends?

It's true the minimum passing score on most CDCs is a 65 percent.

I don't know what that means to

Aimpoint

Become the next generation of Air Force and Air Commando leaders

you, but according to nearly every educational institution in the country it means a D minus. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand that a D minus isn't going to win you any prizes.

But, what does a score of 65 percent really mean? It means 35 percent of the "stuff" you were tested on, you failed.

In our business, that 35 percent may be the difference between mission success and mission failure – or the difference between life and death.

Think about it. Would you want to fly in a plane in which the engines only worked 65 percent of the time?

This thought process might seem harsh to some; however, success and

failure in war is determined by our state of readiness, or more simply put, how well we're trained.

True Air Commandos are not D minus students. They take pride in their duty, whatever that duty may be, as it supports the AFSOC mission. Air Commandos train hard, do their job and possess a deep intolerance for mediocrity.

They are credible, reliable, intense and motivated. But, mostly, Air Commandos are winners because they understand the consequences of coming in second place in our business.

The U.S. Air Force possesses some of the most sophisticated weapons systems in the world. As an Air Force recruitment advertisement stated, "No one comes close." However, all the high-speed, low-drag weapons systems are nothing more than molded plastic and steel without properly trained troops to employ, maintain or support them.

So, are you an Air Commando or merely someone assigned to AFSOC?

16th SOW Aimpoints

- Fight and win
- Take best care of our wingmen, families and resources
- Become the next generation of Air Force and Air Commando leaders

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Submitting articles

The deadline for submissions to the COMMANDO is noon Monday for briefs the week of publication. Articles may be submitted on IBM format computer disk or via electronic mail. Non-electronic submissions must be typed, double-spaced. All submissions must include the name and telephone number of a person to call.

Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to the base commander for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community. To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number. Open lines of general interest will be printed in the COMMANDO. Other questions will be answered by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you and perhaps improve their process. However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give the commander a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or e-mail your concerns to commando@hurlburt.af.mil.

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Freedom isn't free

by Staff Sgt.
Thomas Brick
332nd Expeditionary
Contracting Flight

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq – Freedom is a hard concept to define at times. Many would say freedom is yours at birth, that you

are born free with the same rights everyone else has.

Freedom is something you have to want for yourself. It's something you have to define for yourself.

When we're born we're not free because we're so helpless and unable to do anything for ourselves. This really isn't freedom because we depend on others for support and are unable to make decisions for ourselves.

It's when we start mak-

ing decisions for ourselves; but, this freedom isn't without a price.

This freedom comes with the cost of having to live with the consequences of each action we take and each word we utter.

Freedom isn't just a label or a right that politicians tout on a stage in front of supporters. It's that state of control over your own destiny. That's why freedom is worth fighting for, worth dying for.

Because it's so precious and fragile, it must be defended and held tight from those who would take it away.

Through the founding fathers' actions and steadfast persistence, a nation was created that was unlike any other nation on earth at the time or even now.

The result of all these blood, sweat and tears is a nation that allows you to live your life.

Air Commando Salute

Senior Airman Patrice Bell

Organization: 25th Information Operations Squadron

Duty Title: Communications and information systems journeyman

Hometown: Atlanta
Hobbies: Bowling, shopping and listening to music

Mission Contributions:

Airman Bell established a unit information assurance awareness program, training 83 unit members on new procedures. She resolved more

than 200 helpdesk trouble tickets involving system software and hardware on three local area network systems.

Airman Bell searched for and deleted more than 200 unauthorized files and software from the storage area network. She performed weekly back-ups of all application, system and security event logs on four unit servers. (For information about Air Commando Salute or to nominate an Airman, call 884-7464.)



Photograph by Jamie Haig

DUI Tracker

Dec. 2-8: 1 DUI
This year: 27
DUIs for 2004: 42
Last DUI: 16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Dec. 3
Days since last DUI:
16th OG...66
16th MXG...5
16th MSG...32
16th MDG...345
Totals are current as of Dec. 8.
Don't Drink and Drive. Call AADD at 884-8844
Potential saves this year: 617



Retention: Hurlburt Field, AF fall short

by Airman 1st Class
James Dickens
16th SOW Public Affairs

Retention rates are below par Air Force-wide, and the statistics are no different at Hurlburt Field.

"We do surveys at the end

of our retention briefings and we have found some of the reasons Airmen are getting out of the military," said Senior Master Sgt. David Ceurvels, 16th Special Operations Wing Career assistance advisor.

According to the surveys, the top two reasons Airmen are getting out are personal reasons and the promise of more money in the civilian world.

"Being a four-year enlistee I can't get overseas," said Senior Airman Kimberly Batts, 16th Communications Squadron. "I'm trapped here and have no mobility. I came in too old and ignorant of the Air Force lifestyle."

The surveys are finding more than just Airmen who aren't enjoying their stay in the military. They're also find-

2005 retention survey statistics											
Reason	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Total
Personal	10	2	4	5	4	4	4	8	5	4	50
Make more money	5	2	3	5	2	2	1	2	4	1	27
Want to go to school	0	2	3	1	2	0	2	3	1	2	16
Bad leadership	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	3	4	1	14
No family time	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	2	0	12
Lack of job stability	5	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	10
No freedom	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	7
Too many deployments	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
Busy schedule/long hours	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	5
Bad work environment	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	5
Low morale	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
No job satisfaction	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	4

Editors Note: These totals are based on 552 Airmen who took the survey after retention briefings in 2005. Out of the 552, 160 were leaning toward getting out. This chart doesn't include totals for July or December. This information is courtesy of the 16th Special Operations Wing Career Assistance Advisors.

Graphics by Airman 1st Class James Dickens

Percentages

	Air Force	Hurlburt
1st term	55 percent	50 percent
2nd term	75 percent	56 percent

Editors Note: This graphic shows the 2005 Air Force goal for 1st and 2nd term Airmen reenlistment, and Hurlburt Field's percentages for the year.

ing Airmen who love it.

"I love the military," said Senior Airman Oscar Santiago, 16th Services Squadron. "You really just

have to make the best of situations sometimes, but I have been lucky enough to have great supervisors so far."

If you add up all the military benefits, how much you make may surprise you.

See **RATE**, Page 8



Photograph by Airman 1st Class Ali Flisek

'Practice makes perfect'

Airman 1st Class Gary Kilmer (front) and Senior Airman Matthew Dale, 16th Communications Squadron, set up radio equipment during a base-wide exercise Dec. 5, in preparation for an Operation Readiness Inspection next spring. Hurlburt Field will have several exercises before the ORI to ensure all base personnel are prepared for the evaluation.

16th SOW Safety.

'Street Smart' instructors are crime prevention specialists, who constantly research and evaluate current crime trends.

Rather than clicking through 40 unexciting overhead slides, the crime prevention team brings props and keeps it exciting.

"It's fast-paced information with props," said Mr. Prevett. "You'll be surprised when you look at your watch and see an hour has passed."

For more information, call the wing safety office at 884-2610.

Safety coalition explains crime prevention tactics

by Airman 1st Class
James Dickens
16th SOW Public Affairs

They let ordinary people know what thieves are thinking and how they steal, scam, mug, carjack, rape, invade, pick pocket and much more.

The Public Safety Coalition is giv-

ing 'Street Smart' briefings in the base theater for all base people and spouses at 8 and 10 a.m., and 1 and 3 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday.

Although the briefing is mandatory for 16th Special Operations Wing senior airmen and below, the 16th SOW Safety Office wants to stress that this is great material for everyone.

"This isn't a briefing - it's valuable information presented by professionals that will arm you with enough information to protect yourself and your loved ones," said B.J. Prevett,

Hurlburt Field among winners of Air Force environmental awards

Courtesy of AFPN

WASHINGTON - The 16th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight was selected as one of 10 Air Force Gen. Thomas D. White Environmental Award winners for 2005.

Hurlburt Field received the award for the Natural Resources Conservation Award (small base).

"These awards recognize extraordinary contributions to the Air Force and clearly showcase our commitment to environmental stewardship," said Maj. Gen. L. Dean Fox, the Air Force civil engineer.

"Congratulations to the winners for their leadership in our environmental program and their tireless commitment to excellence," he said.

Nine of the winners are eligible for the Secretary of Defense environmental awards and will go forward as the Air Force's nominees.

The Air Force captured four of eight Secretary of Defense environmental awards in 2004, environmental officials said.

A ceremony and reception to honor the winners will take place at the Pentagon May 3.

No boys allowed at... Ladies' Night Out

by 2nd Lt. Amy Gonzales
16th SOW Public Affairs

Massages, makeup, manicures and munchies lured more than 100 women to the Hurlburt Field Chapel Dec. 2 for Ladies' Night Out.

The inaugural event was sponsored by the Protestant Women of the Chapel, and treated the ladies to a full range of pampering experiences.

"We thought this would be a good gift to give back to the Hurlburt community," said Angela Coburn, PWOC event organizer.

Mrs. Coburn came up with the idea recently after she received a makeover. She had such a good time, that she figured other women would enjoy it, too.

"I thought, if she (the makeup artist) could make me feel like this, I wonder if she (the makeup artist) could do it for other ladies," said Mrs. Coburn.

Mrs. Coburn and other PWOC members contacted local makeup consultants and service providers whom they thought women would enjoy.

Approximately 10 volunteers and 15 businesses, ranging from massage therapists and makeup consultants to photographers, volunteered their services to the event.

Childcare was also provided.

The event was well-received by the women of Hurlburt Field. More than 60 women signed up only three days after flyers were posted, said Mrs. Coburn. On the night of the event, more than 100 women packed the chapel, ready to feel good.

About six of the chapel classrooms were transformed into two large temporary beauty spas.

For more than two hours, the women drifted between rooms, taking advantage of the different pampering opportunities in each one.

In one room, women "oohed" and "ahhed" over how soft their hands felt after exfoliation treatments. Just a few feet away, women received manicures.

However, it didn't have the odor of a typical nail salon, as the hand exfoliation treatment left the room smelling like brown sugar, with a hint of lavender and gardenia.

The room across the hall had a feeling of Zen as the lights were turned down, creating an environment perfect for the evening's hottest ticket – massages.

As women got out of the massage chair, they looked as if in a state of total bliss.



Photograph by 2nd Lt. Amy Gonzales

Marey Taylor receives a massage from Alesha McCants during the inaugural Ladies' Night Out. The relaxing treatments often left the ladies "massage drunk."

Whitney Searcy, massage technician, described one woman as being "massage drunk" as she stumbled off of "cloud nine" and back into reality.

"I would do this every week," said Kelly Ayres as she held her friend's hair back so she could get a neck massage.

In both spas, local makeup consultants taught the women how to apply makeup so that it high-

lights their best features.

"You've got the line to work with – don't be afraid," Stephanie Duenas, local makeup consultant, explained to LaSandra Perkins as she showed her how to apply eyeliner.

Event organizers were pleased with how the evening turned out.

"We realize that there is a desire for this," said Mrs. Coburn. "We'll have another one – a bigger one."



U.S. Navy photograph by Airman Apprentice Nathan Laird

The guided missile destroyer *USS Donald Cook* escorts the Spanish Navy frigate *Alvaro de Bazan* during a ceremony honoring *Alvaro de Bazan's* departure from Carrier Strike Group Two.

Brothers In Arms

Army

ALSUHADAA STATION, Iraq – U.S. Soldiers from the 16th Military Police Brigade have been working hand-in-hand with the Iraqi police at Bilal Alshuhadaa Station, Iraq, since September.

"When we first arrived in Mosul, they (Iraqi police) were under our constant supervision," said Sgt. John Olsen. "Now, almost two years later, we are to the point where they (Iraqi police) are taking the main role in the missions they conduct."

Marines

JALALABAD, Afghanistan – Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, III Marine Expeditionary Force attacked to disrupt anti-coalition militias during Operation Sorkh Khar (Red Donkey) Nov. 12-22 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

In the battalion-wide operation Marines, Soldiers and Sailors teamed with the Afghan National Police and Afghan National Army to enter three separate valleys in a massed effort.

Navy

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Navy announced Dec. 2 that *USS Freedom*, the first littoral combat ship of the LCS 1 class, will be homeported at Naval Station San Diego, Calif. *Freedom* is expected to be delivered to the Navy in December 2006 and arrive in San Diego in early 2007.

Osprey flies special operations forces into future

by Senior Airman
J.G. Buzanowski
AFPN

In addition to riding on the wings of Eagles, Falcons and Hawks, the Air Force will also fly with the Ospreys soon.

The CV-22 Osprey, that is.

The Air Force will buy 50 of the tilt-rotor aircraft for use by Air Force Special Operations Command.

The 8th Special Operations Squadron will be the first to fly the CV-22 Osprey.

The Osprey will first go through several developmental and operational test phases both at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., and Kirtland AFB, N.M. It should be ready for deploy-

ment by 2009, said Maj. Percy Dunagin, commander of Detachment 1 of the 18th Flight Test Squadron at Edwards.

The Osprey is a tilt-rotor aircraft that flies like a propeller airplane but takes off and lands like a helicopter. The first aircraft is now undergoing testing at Edwards.

The second one arrived at the high desert base in late October, and the third is expected in February.

"The CV-22 has twice the speed and range of a helicopter but is able to operate from short fields. So it's a unique combination that will augment the mission of special operations forces," Major Dunagin said.

"Helicopters have an advantage and fixed-wing aircraft have an

advantage. The CV-22 fills a niche between the two," he said.

The Marines fly the Osprey, too. The Air Force version includes a multi-mode radar system that allows it to fly in adverse weather and at night, the major said.

Because of the increased flying range, the CV-22 – and the special operations units that will use it – can operate farther from the front lines. This will leave them at less risk between missions, said Tech. Sgt. Chad Ackman, a flight engineer.

"The instruments are all digital readouts, as opposed to the old analog ones," Sergeant Ackman said. "So it's one thing that makes the flight engineers' job on board the aircraft a whole lot easier."



Photograph by Amy Oliver

The 16th Operations Group Grinch, readies the howitzer cannon for a 'shot' of smoke at the crowd during the holiday parade Dec. 5.

Airmen brave cold weather for holiday parade

by Amy Oliver
16th SOW Public Affairs

Despite the cold temperatures, nine vehicles and approximately 40 Airmen from Hurlburt Field participated in the annual Fort Walton Beach holiday parade Monday.

With the Hurlburt Field Honor Guard Colors Team leading the way up Eglin Parkway from First Street to just before the Cinco Bayou bridge, all four 16th Special Operations Wing groups of the were represented.

Thousands of spectators lining Eglin Parkway welcomed Col. Clifford "Skip" Day, 16th Mission Support Group commander, who rode in a 16th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit Humvee.

Many parade-goers have come to

anxiously anticipate and appreciate Hurlburt Field's presence in the parade, and this year was no different as evidenced by cheers when they entered the parade route.

"We love the military!" said Bill Gainey, Fort Walton Beach resident and former Hurlburt Field Airman, who attended the parade with his family.

The Hurlburt Field line-up continued with 16th CES's Fire Emergency Services vehicles, 16th Security Forces Squadron vehicles and McGruff the Crime Dog and a tractor pulling a combat display on a flatbed trailer from the 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

The Hurlburt Field finale included an ambulance from the 16th Medical Operations Squadron that preceded the 16th Operations Support Squa-

dron's 32-foot range support boat and a replica of a howitzer cannon – complete with a smoking barrel and an Airman dressed as the Grinch.

In addition to the vehicles, Airmen from the 16th Maintenance Group walked along the sides of the vehicles ensuring the safety of parade-going children, who waited for candy to be tossed their way.

Senior Airman Michael Mandel, 16th MDOS, volunteered to ride in the ambulance.

"I wanted to participate in this community event to create an awareness of our equipment and our capabilities," said Airman Mandel.

Senior Master Sgt. Steven Haggett, 16th Component Maintenance Squadron first sergeant, agreed.

"It's a great way to give back to the community," he said.

JACKIE MITCHELL
CS/HEAVENLY PLAC
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2 X 2.00

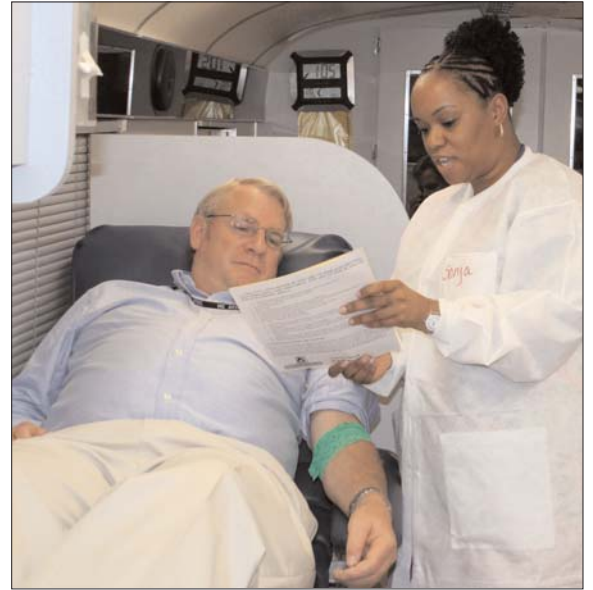
RIVIERA FITNESS SPA
CS/RHP/2 FOR 1
611431
2 X 5.00

ARMED FORCES COMM INC
CS/USING THE BRI
61114
3 X 7.00

ST SIMON'S ON THE
SOUND
CS/ADVENT

DOROTHY'S
HAIR CARE
CS/BOOTH

ARMED FORCES COMM INC
CS/STAYING BEHIN
611137
3 X 10.00



Photograph by Jamie Haig

Sonja Boyers, Northwest Florida Blood Center, explains post-donation instructions to Ronald Young, Air Force Special Operations Command, Nov. 28 at the 16th Medical Group blood drive, held in the commissary parking lot.

Blood drive draws 65 units of blood

by **Jamie Haig**
16th SOW Public Affairs

The 16th Medical Group blood drive Nov. 28 drew 65 donors – the second largest drive this year.

"September was our largest drive this year," said Capt. Mark Noon, 16th MDG laboratory services chief. "We had 96 people donate that month, which was the largest donor turnout for the Northwest Florida Blood Center this year."

The blood drives are held every eight weeks, and the blood is used by Eglin Air Force Base's 96th Medical Group and local hospitals as needed.

A unit of blood costs \$200; the 65 donated units potentially saved the Air Force \$13,000 in medical costs.

"Eglin uses approximately 50 units a month," said Captain Noon.

December is the highest-need month of the year, said Captain Noon. People are so

busy with seasonal activities, that they don't have time to donate. Factor in accident victims due to heavy holiday traffic, and the supply can quickly deplete.

Ronald Young, Air Force Special Operations Command, is a frequent blood donor for good reasons.

"I encourage everyone to donate," said Mr. Young. "It's a quick, easy way to help others in need. I would hope that if I ever need blood, other people would be there to help."

Airmen who have been deployed and don't think they're qualified to donate blood can check the American Red Cross Web site for the new parameters: <http://chapters.redcross.org/br/centralplains/guidelines.htm>.

Anyone who would like to donate blood before the next drive may do so at the Northwest Florida Blood Center located at 405 Northeast Racetrack Road, Fort Walton Beach.

Laws protect against software piracy *505TH, Continued from Page 1*

by Terry Sweat
16th CS

Most people would never consider stealing something that didn't belong to them.

But, those who copy computer software without authorization are stealing someone else's property — their intellectual property. And, they're breaking the law.

Like most creative works, such as books, music and films, computer software is protected by copyright laws, U.S. Code Title 17 and 18.

When people purchase software, they don't become the owner of the copyright. Rather, they're purchasing the right to use the software under certain restrictions imposed by the copyright owner, typically the software publisher.

These rules are described in the documentation accompanying the software, or the license. Most often, it states that software purchasers have the right to load the software onto a single computer and make one back-up copy.

If anyone copies, distributes or installs the software in ways that the license prohibits, whether swapping disks with friends and coworkers or participating in widespread duplica-

tion, it violates federal copyright law. Even if someone only helps another person make unauthorized copies, he or she is still liable.

Many businesses, large and small, face serious legal risks because of software piracy. Under the law, a company can be held liable for its employees' actions. If an employee installs unauthorized software copies on company computers or acquires illegal software through the Internet, the company can be sued for copyright infringement. This is true — even if the company's management was unaware of the employee's actions.

To make or download unauthorized copies of software is breaking the law, no matter how many copies are involved. Whether casually making a few copies for friends, loaning disks, distributing and/or downloading pirated software via the Internet, or buying a single software program and installing it on 100 company computers, a person is committing copyright infringement.

Is a military career worth the risk?

It's not a matter of if someone will get caught, but a matter of when.

For more information, contact your unit software program manager or call the base software program management office at 884-7366.



Photograph by Airman 1st Class Ali Flisek
Maj. Gen. Stephen Goldfein, U.S. Air Force Warfare Center commander, passes the 505th Command and Control Wing guidon to Col. Vincent DiFronzo, the new 505th CCW commander, during a change-of-command ceremony Friday.

RATE, Continued from Page 3

Based on base pay, basic allowance for housing and basic allowance for substance, the average six-year staff sergeant at Hurlburt Field makes \$40,477.

Therefore, a staff sergeant would need to make \$19.50 an hour during a normal 40-hour work week in order to match his or her Air Force pay.

This doesn't even include benefits like medical, education and leave.

Airmen do have to take some bad with the good though.

According to a survey done during the base retention briefing, a lot of

The new commander is a 25-year veteran and 1980 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The general also praised the progress that the wing saw under Colonel McGuirk.

"Colonel McGuirk leaves this wing as its first commander," he said. "It's because of his leadership that this unit has received the Outstanding Unit Award, and it's because of his vision that the CAOC is the key to our nation's airpower."

The 505th CCW is best known as the home of training and testing systems and personnel working in the Air Force's newest weapons system — the CAOC.

Airmen also attribute long hours, too many deployments, lack of freedom and family time to their short stay in the Air Force.

Master Sgt. Mayra Casanova, CAA, attributes a lot of the problems to inexperienced supervisors not properly informing their Airmen about opportunities.

"A lot of Airmen get to the retention briefing with no idea of all the opportunities the Air Forces offers," said Sergeant Casanova. "And by the time they get to us, sometimes it's too late."

ISLANDER'S SURF & SAIL
CS/HALF FOR HALF
610694
5 X 5.50

MCMILLIAN & ASSOCIATES
CS/JOB FAIR
594708
3 X 5.00

TROY STATE UNIVERSITY
CS/TERM 3
610792
3 X 6.00

Moody rescue crews receive Mackay Trophy

by Senior Airman J.G. Buzanowski
AFP

WASHINGTON – Two HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter aircrews received the Mackay Trophy from Gen. John D. W. Corley, Air Force vice chief of staff, at a ceremony here Monday.

The 13 Airmen earned the award for rescuing five Soldiers whose helicopter crashed in a sandstorm near Kharbut, Iraq, in April 2004.

The rescue crews, from the 41st and 38th rescue squadrons at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., are:

Aircraft commanders: Capts. Bryan Creel and Robert Wrinkle.

Co-pilots: Maj. Joseph Galletti and Capt. Greg Rockwood.

Flight engineers: Tech. Sgt. Michael Preston and Staff Sgt. Patrick Ledbetter.

Aerial gunners: Master Sgt. Paul Silver and Tech. Sgt. Thomas Ringheimer.

Pararescuemen: Tech. Sgt. Matt Leigh and Staff Sgts. Vincent Eckert, John Griffin and Michael Rubio and Senior Airman Edward Ha.

General Corley was the keynote speaker at the award ceremony. He praised the efforts of the entire combat search and rescue community and the trophy winners. He told the audience to remember these Airmen work, "so that others may live."

"No matter what the weather is, no matter what time of day it is, combat search and rescue forces will be ready to bring you back, be it Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine," the general said. "The Air Force is proud to be part of this joint team in defending this nation."

The Army CH-47 Chinook helicopter was part of a three-ship re-supply mission April 16, 2004, when they ran into a sandstorm 70 miles southeast of Baghdad. The first and third helicopters were able to climb out.

The second helicopter tried to land to avoid any possible mid-air collisions. But,

when the helicopter touched down, the right landing gear collapsed, and the helicopter rolled onto its side.

Captain Creel and the Jolly 11 crew – from the 41st – got the call for the combat rescue operation. Despite intelligence reports of possible enemy threats – and a raging sandstorm – they, along with the Jolly 12 crew from the 38th RQS, were airborne within 45 minutes.

While en route to the crash site, Captain Creel and his wingman, Captain Wrinkle, realized they would have to alter their flying to get to the downed aircrew.

"No matter what the weather is, no matter what time of day it is, combat search and rescue forces will be ready to bring you back..."

Gen. John D.W. Corley, Air Force vice chief of staff

The sandstorm wreaked havoc, and rendered their infrared and night vision goggles ineffective – leaving the pilots to fly by instruments.

On their first approach, they flew right over the downed Soldiers. The two helicopters circled around, and Captain Creel set down. Captain Wrinkle's helicopter provided cover, then landed so its pararescue team could help.

"I think they were worried we weren't going to go in for them," Captain Wrinkle said.

Their perils weren't over when the survivors were on board. On their way back to base, the helicopters came under attack, and evaded several surface-to-air missiles and small arms fire.

"Combat search and rescue is a double-edged sword," Captain Creel said. "We want to go out and do our mission. But, if we have to, it means someone needs our help and might be hurt."

823rd RHS performs Central American missions

by Capt. Carla Pampe
8th AF Public Affairs

Members of the 823rd RED HORSE Squadron once again demonstrated their flexibility and rapid deployment capability through two recent missions in Central America.

The first deployment was to Guatemala, where team members provided aircraft arresting system (a series of components used to stop an aircraft by absorbing its momentum in a routine or emergency landing or aborted takeoff) support for the U.S. Air Force Aerial Demonstration Team and the West Coast F-15 demonstration team.

"The challenges there were many," said Master Sgt. Lakenzar Snipes, 823rd RHS.

The Guatemalan air show committee didn't have all the necessary equipment available the team required to do the barrier installation.

"Consequently, much of the excavation required to place the arresting system anchors into the ground was done manually," Sergeant

Snipes said. "While excavating, we discovered a 5-foot-tall concrete block right in our path. We used a jackhammer to cut through it. It took us eight hours to cut through the block."

The team overcame a number of other obstacles, including a water line that had to be cut, power lines that had to be dug around and trouble accessing the runway due to around-the-clock operations at the international airport.

While the team was working in Guatemala, RED HORSE Master Sgts. James Heffley and Benjamin Erck received a short-notice tasking to support President George Bush's visit to Panama. The RED HORSE team went to Panama following the air show to install another aircraft arresting system in Panama City.

"Normally, to support installation of a mobile aircraft arresting system, we have at least one month of time to accomplish the pre-site visit, coordinate with the appropriate representatives and mobilize the necessary

assets," Sergeant Heffley said. "This was an extremely short-notice tasking considering how complex the installation process can be for this system."

"That left us only one and a half days to complete an installation that normally requires three days," Sergeant Snipes said.

Coordination had to be done to get water, electricity and phones turned back on the former Howard Air Force Base runway, since Howard has been closed since 1999.

However, once approval was given, the team was off and running.

"The support we received in Panama was awesome," said Sergeant Snipes.

"The locals in Panama were great. We had a local electrician that worked with us during the installation at Howard," Sergeant Heffley said.

"He had previously worked with the U.S. military when the base was still active and he told me how he missed working with us," he said.



Photograph by Capt. Carla Pampe

An 823rd RED HORSE Squadron NCO works at the former Howard Air Force Base near Panama City, Panama, in preparation for the installation of an aircraft arresting system.

Blood brothers, brothers in arms in deployed location

Siblings deploy to same location in different Air Force Specialty Codes

by Master Sgt. Randy Mitchell
447th Air Expeditionary Group
Public Affairs

BAGHDAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Iraq – Some brothers live near each other, some take vacations together and some enjoy grand adventures with one another.

Travis and Terence Mimms chose a grand adventure.

The two brothers, identical twins born only eight minutes apart, found themselves deployed to the same location.

Strange enough in itself, but it gets better when you realize they are in different career fields and stationed at separate bases.

"We actually see more of each other now than we did before deploying," said Airman 1st Class Travis Mimms, 447th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, and eldest of the two.

"We can chill together here just



Photograph by Master Sgt. Randy Mitchell

Airmen 1st Class Travis Mimms (left), 447th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, and Terence Mimms, 447th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, are identical twins deployed to Baghdad International Airport, Iraq.

about everyday," said Airman 1st Class Terence Mimms, 447th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron. "Back at our home stations it's a little different because of the distance and our work schedules."

The distance 'back home' isn't much, since Travis is assigned to Hurlburt Field and Terence is at Eglin

Air Force Base, both in the Florida panhandle about 10 miles apart.

They see each other daily and enjoy their off-duty time together working out in the gym, playing sports or just 'chilling out' watching a movie. They both joined the Air Force for the educational benefits and to travel, but neither expected they

would travel to Iraq during the same rotation. Their mom, Tanya, who still lives in Clarksville, Tenn., certainly wasn't pleased when she first found out. Terence, who splits his time between working entry control points and patrols to keep the base safe and secure, was the first to find out he was deploying and to tell his mother.

"Originally, I was the only one deploying and I was supposed to be going to Balad," said Terence. "So later when Travis told her he was going to Baghdad she really got heated."

In fact, Travis was the first to deploy, and he didn't know his brother's deployment had been changed to Baghdad.

"I was the first one here," said Travis, "and when I was walking to the gym I saw a figure walking my way, and I thought 'this person looks like me and walks the same as I do.'"

"When he got closer, I thought 'that is me'... my twin! We just smiled and hugged each other," Travis said.

Even though the two brothers enjoy each other's company, they still focus on their missions here.

Military

USAFSOS courses

The U.S. Air Force Special Operations School invites personnel to attend the Asia-Pacific Orientation Course Jan. 9-13. This course is designed for personnel preparing to live in or deploy to the Asia-Pacific region or those with a professional or analytical interest in the region. For more information, call Maj. Jae Sim at 884-1858 or visit <https://www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/tenantunits/jsou>.

U-drive-it, mobags

The 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron Vehicle Operations Flight provides U-Drive-It government vehicles for official purposes. All UDI requests must be received five working days prior to the planned event and e-mailed to: 16lrs.dispatch@hurlburt.af.mil. All UDI requests must be coordinated with vehicle control officers or NCOs, or signed by commanders or designated representatives.

The 16th LRS Mobility Bags section will close at noon the first Monday of each month for training. For more information, call Master Sgt. Jerry Thornton at 884-1329.

Community

Christmas parade

The 16th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Emergency Services Flight firefighters will drive fire trucks will drive through Hurlburt Field's housing areas 9-11 a.m. Saturday. Riding along with the firefighters will be Santa Claus to spread holiday cheer to residents.

The parade will start in the Commando Village housing area, then to Soundside, Live Oak and Pine Shadows.

Claims

Any person or persons with a claim for or against the estate of Senior Airman Leland Aslinger, 16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, should call 1st Lt. Ming Xu at 982-5459 or e-mail ming.xu@hurlburt.af.mil.

Recruiting brief

The 24th Special Tactics Squadron, Pope Air Force Base, N.C., is recruiting top performers for a special duty assignment. A recruiting briefing will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday in the base theater. The following Air Force Specialty Codes are of interest to the 24th STS: 1C052, 2E190, 2E153, 2S0X, 2T25, 2T35, 3A0X, 3P0X, 3S05, 3S25, 4N0X,



Photograph by Senior Airman Heidi Davis

Educational inquiry

Tech. Sgt. Charles Parton, 373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 7, who is seeking a bachelor's degree in aeronautics, discusses course information with Kristie Romrell, assistant center director and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University representative, at the education center open house Thursday afternoon. The open house was a hospitality event to inform Airmen about colleges and universities stationed here.

J1W0X1A, 4A15, 1T15, 1N0X, 2A7X, 3C0X and 6F0X.

Caring and Sharing

Caring and Sharing needs help with the Christmas distribution Dec. 16-19 at Oriole Beach Elementary School. To volunteer or for more information, call Master Sgt. Debra Rasmussen at 883-1079 or 939-4756.

Air Force Reserve

The Air Force Reserve is hiring for part-time positions. Continue serving in your current Air Force Specialty or possibly retrain and continue to receive many of the same Air Force benefits while securing retirement with the Reserves.

If considering early separation under the Palace Chase program or approaching the end of an active-duty commitment, call Master Sgt. Adam Waldie at 884-2656.

Munch & Mend

The base chapel will hold Munch & Mend at 5 p.m. Monday. Airmen can enjoy a free home-cooked meal while having minor repairs done, or stripes, patches or name tapes sewn on one clean uniform.

For more information, call Bill White at 884-7371 or Jimmie Thomas at 315-4746.

Spouses' club

The Hurlburt Spouses' Club is offering traditional academic scholarship opportunities to military spouses and local high school students. Applications are located at the squadrons, family support center, base education office, base library, thrift shop and local high schools. Students and spouses may also apply online at www.hurlburtsc.com. For more information, call Rachel Crigger at 207-0964 or e-mail j_crigger@hotmail.com.

The HSC December luncheon will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in The Soundside. The Florosa Elementary

fifth grade choir will provide holiday entertainment. The cost is \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members. Childcare will be provided. For more information, call Karin Heaton at 515-0371.

Contracting claims

Contractors working on an Air Force installation are responsible for damages they cause to a service member. *Air Force Instruction 51-502* states, the claims office will refer service members to the appropriate office when a mishap occurs.

If the service member knows who the contractor is, they should contact the contractor directly. Service members can file a claim through the base claims office if the contractor fails to reimburse for damages.

If the contractor is unknown, or for more information, call Matthew Spencer, 16th Contracting Squadron, at 884-6880 or Chris Wentworth, 16th CONS, at 884-1260.

Free child care

The next "Give Parents a Break" is 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday at the family support center.

This program is sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society for qualified spouses of deployed or remote active-duty members or for emergency situations. For more information, call the FSC at 884-5441.

Hearts Apart party

The Hearts Apart holiday party will be at 5:30 p.m. Thursday at the family support center. Children are welcome to join the fun. For reservations, call 884-5441.

Single parents

An informal lunchtime meeting will be held noon - 1:30 p.m. Dec. 16 at the family support center.

Share the joys and challenges of being a single parent with others. Lunch provided. For reservations, call 884-5441.

At the movies



Prices are \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 6-years-old and up. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Hurlburt Field - 884-7648

Friday - In Her Shoes (PG-13) Maggie is fun-loving and irresponsible. Her older sister, Rose, is a high-powered lawyer who watches Maggie's wild life with disdain. When an attempt to live together fails miserably, they go off in different directions to find the missing pieces in their lives.

Saturday - Elizabethtown (PG-13) After causing the Oregon shoe company he works for to lose hundreds of millions of dollars, Drew is fired for his mistake. On the verge of suicide, Drew is oddly given a new purpose in life when he is brought back to his family's small Kentucky hometown of Elizabethtown following the death of his father.

Sunday - A Gospel (PG) A young singer turns his back on God and his father's church when tragedy strikes. He returns years later to find the once powerful congregation in disarray. With his childhood nemesis creating a "new vision" for the church, he is forced to deal with family turmoil, career suicide and relationship issues.

Eglin - 882-1066

Friday - Doom (R) Something has gone wrong at a remote scientific research station on Mars. All research has ceased. Communication has failed. A legion of nightmarish creatures of unknown origin lurks behind every wall and stalks the countless rooms and tunnels of the facility, killing what few people remain.

Saturday - Fog (PG-13) A thick fog enshrouds a coastal town. The fog is reminiscent of one 100 years earlier that wrecked a ship and drowned the seamen aboard. The sailors are back and out to kill whomever they find.

Sunday - North Country (R) True story centered on Lori Jensen, who took a job at a Minnesota iron mine in 1975. She and other female miners endured harassment from male co-workers, ranging from verbal taunts to pornographic graffiti and worse. Jensen eventually filed suit in 1984 and won a landmark legal decision.

(Editor's note: Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm dates.)

Base chapel



Catholic Mass
Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 7:15 and 10 a.m.
Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request
Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday
Religious Education:
September - May

Protestant Services

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. (Traditional worship)
11:30 a.m. (Contemporary worship)
Religious Education: August - May
Youth and Singles groups available

Jewish Services (882-2111)

Sabbath services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel Center

Muslim Services (882-2111), Eglin Chapel Center
Jumuah: Friday, 12:45 p.m.

For more information, call 884-7795.

Airman Against Drunk Driving

For a free, confidential ride home, call AADD at 884-8844. Don't drink and drive.

24-hour Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline:

Hurlburt Field - 884-6322
Air Force - (800) 538-8429
Department of Defense - (800) 424-9098

Flag football

Youth team outscored opponents 384-71, ended season with 10-0 record

by Airman 1st Class
James Dickens
Public Affairs

The Hurlburt Field 9-11-year-old youth flag football team completed its season with a 10-0 record.

The Commandos outscored their opponents 384-71 this season, and did it with a first-year coach and no 11-year-olds on the team.

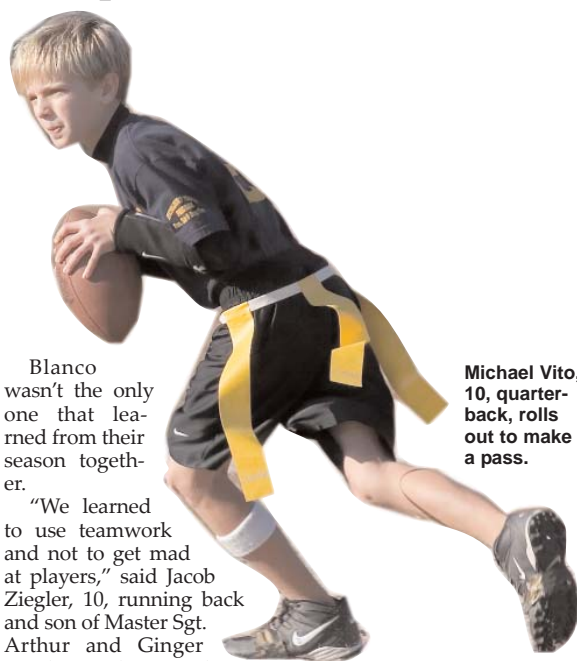
"Superior attitude, superior results"; that's the motto we played by," said Ivan Blanco, Commandos coach. "These kids were amazing. They had a great attitude, which taught me a lot."

"Having them smile and say 'thanks coach', means the world to me," said Blanco.



Courtesy photographs

Jake Ziegler, 10, son of Master Sgt. Arthur and Ginger Ziegler, 16th Special Operations Squadron, tries to out run the defense.



Michael Vito, 10, quarterback, rolls out to make a pass.

Blanco wasn't the only one that learned from their season together.

"We learned to use teamwork and not to get mad at players," said Jacob Ziegler, 10, running back and son of Master Sgt. Arthur and Ginger Ziegler, 16th Special Operations Squadron.

"The kids looked forward to being out there with him. He was a good coach to

have," said Mr. Turnage. "I haven't seen any season go that smooth in I don't know how long."

In the bleachers

Cheerleading registration

Cheerleading registration ends today for ages 6-8 and 9 and older. Practices begin in January, and registration is \$20 a person. A parents meeting will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the base theater and will include uniform fittings. Uniform cost is about \$70 a person, with \$35 due at the fitting. Cheerleaders must have a birth certificate and annual physicals. For more information, call 884-6355.

Wrestling camp

Active-duty men and women can apply for the 2006 Air Force Wrestling Training Camp, which will be held in Colorado Springs, Colo., Feb. 16-April 17. Applicants must submit an Air Force Form 303 to the Aderholt Fitness Center by today. For more information, call Jim Harriott at 884-6884.

Cross country

Active-duty runners can apply for the Air Force cross-country team. Applicants must submit an Air Force Form 303 to the Aderholt Fitness Center by Dec. 26. For more information, call Jim Harriott at 884-6884.

Women's basketball

Active-duty women are needed for the Air Force women's basketball team tryouts. Applicants must submit an Air Force Form 303 to the Aderholt Fitness Center by Jan. 3. For more information, call Jim Harriott at 884-6884.

Over 30 basketball

Current as of Wednesday

Team	W	L
MXG	4	1
AFSOC	4	1
COMM	3	1
MDG	4	2
RHS	4	2
SVS	2	3
CMS	2	3
LRS	2	3
MSS	1	2
505TH 1	2	4
505TH 2	1	3
39 IOS	0	4

Intramural horseshoes

Current as of Wednesday

Team	W	L
RHS 1	7	2
RHS 2	7	3
CES	6	4
25 IOS	3	6
39 IOS	2	6
39 IOS 2	2	6
MSS	0	0

Varsity basketball

Current as of Wednesday

Team	W	L
Moody	11	5
Tyndall	12	5

Robins	7	6
Eglin	7	8
Mayport	4	9
Hurlburt	3	7
Field	0	8

Intramural bowling

Current as of Wednesday

Team	Points	W	L
HMXS	66	30	
39 IOS	60	36	
RED HORSE	56	40	
LRS	54	42	
505 EXS 2	53	43	
AFSOC B	52	44	
AFSOC A	48	48	
505 EXS	46	50	
JSOU	46	50	
AMXS	43	53	
	34	62	

National league

Team	Points	W	L
SVS A	68	28	
505 CCW	66	30	
CMS A	61	35	
AFSOC C	56	40	
SVS B	52	44	
CMS B	52	44	
CS	50	46	
CHIEFS	34	62	
MDG		65	

For more information on sports standings, call the Aderholt Fitness Center at



Photograph by Airman 1st Class James Dickens

On the trail

Two runners negotiate a makeshift bridge on the east side of Hurlburt Field during the cross country race Dec. 2. Ninety people participated in the run. Chris Behrens, 20th Special Operations Squadron, won the race with a time of 18 minutes, 37 seconds. The 20th SOS swept the top three positions, and is in first place for the season. Air Force Special Operations Command and 720th Operations Support Squadron took second and third places.



Photographs by Senior Airman Heidi Davis

Viji Varkey, 16th MDG, runs past the 16th LRS 2 defense with the ball toward the end zone ahead.

Got it: 16th MDG overturns 16th LRS 2 in flag football quarterfinals, 28-17

by Senior Airman
Heidi Davis
16th SOW Public Affairs

In the cool, 45-degree evening Tuesday, the 16th Medical Group grabbed the last berth in the intramural flag football semifinals from the 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron 2, 27-18.

The loss punted the 16th LRS 2 out of the semifinals and put the 16th MDG into the final game of the loser's bracket.

Both teams were within reach of the semifinals at the end of the first half, with the 16th MDG up 13-6, but the 16th MDG widened the winning gap by a few touch-

downs early in the second half, as the 16th LRS 2 morale took a hit.

With several unsuccessful drives, the teams seemed evenly matched in the first half.

With less than 10 minutes to play, Chris Hardee, 16th LRS 2, scored the first touchdown of the game, to put the



The 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron 2 flag football team offense (above) huddles during a timeout to discuss the final play of the flag football game.

16th LRS 2 in the lead, 6-0.

However, Marvin Butler and Victor Colón, 16th MDG, scored touchdowns, shortly after as both ran the ball several yards into the end zone.

"We need to up the defense and play harder offense," Charles Norris told the 16th MDG during half-time.

Upping the play, Colón scored his second touchdown within five minutes of the start.

However, Juan Garces, 16th LRS 2, retaliated with one of his own after an interception by a teammate.

Hardee was able to score once more in the last few minutes of the game, but with a fourth touchdown by Jim Rodenberg, 16th MDG, minutes before, LRS 2 fell short.

"I can't knock anyone's performance. Our attitude changed, so our play improved," said Chad Hesler, 16th LRS 2 coach. "Fourth out of 23 teams is great."

Later Tuesday night, the 16th MDG defeated the 25th Information Operations Squadron for the chance to play the 16th Services Squadron in the title match played Thursday night.

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